

The First Annual Culture Machine Award Ceremony To Honor Music, Media, And Youth

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Agency: **Checkmate New York**

CultureMachine, a youth program that teaches music production and media literacy to inner city kids in NY and NJ, will host its 1st annual Awards & Celebrity Auction at the Grill Room, located inside the World Financial Center in Lower Manhattan on Tuesday, November 17th 2009, 7-10pm. The event will be hosted by Entertainment Reporter, Julie Chang.

Three non-profit organizations will be honored and a live auction from celebrity-donated memorabilia will close the program. The program will kick off with a special performance by Grammy award-winner Gordon Chambers, followed by a video montage of CultureMachine's youth programs and activities over the past six years. Three New York non-profits will be honored: Musicians on Call, The September Concert and Manhattan Youth for their outstanding work in utilizing music and media as a positive force to empower and guide young people.

The program will wind up with a live and silent auction to benefit the work of CultureMachine that will include items donated by jazz guitarist George Benson, Academy Award winner Philip Seymour Hoffman, NY Knicks player Patrick Ewing, Vince Carter (Nets), Satch Sanders (Boston Celtics), welterweight WBO boxing champion Kendall Holt and many others. Performances by the FLAMINGOS and the CROWN HEIGHTS AFFAIR will also be auctioned off. Online bidding initiated the week before the event will allow others around the country to participate in this Celebrity Auction.

About Culture Machine

CultureMachine is a youth development program that guides young people to write and produce their own positive music and media projects. It was founded by Brazilian singer/songwriter Diego Costa and filmmaker/author/Free Teens USA founder Richard Panzer in 2003. During the last 6 years, CultureMachine has mentored more than 1,000 inner city students through its annual Teen Media Summit, Music Production and Media Literacy workshops. www.culturemachine.com/mediasummit.html

CultureMachine Award Recipients

- 1)Musicians on Call brings live and recorded music to the bedsides of patients in healthcare facilities. Musicians on Call uses music to promote and complement the healing process for patients, families and caregivers.
- 2)The September Concert organizes an annual citywide music festival in New York, in remembrance of September 11th and a celebration of our universal humanity. In 2009 its concerts already spread many continents, including Europe, Asia, Africa and North America.
- 3)Manhattan Youth has comprehensive after-school programs including music and drama at three downtown schools in lower Manhattan involving over 800 children daily.

For ticket info or to rsvp contact:

Diego Costa
PO Box 97
Westwood, NJ 07675
(917) 331-7750
www.culturemachine.com
diego@culturemachine.com

For Press Inquiries Contact

Checkmate New York
Kevin Sutton
347 996 0540

Nona Thomas
347 659 8591
checkmatenewyork@gmail.com

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